

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

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FOLLOWING TRANSMITTED ON BEHALF CONGEN BELFAST: QUOTE:

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UK (NI)

SUBJECT: ULSTER WORKERS COUNCIL TO PROVIDE UUUC WITH CANDIDATES
FOR CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION ELECTION.

1. GLENN BARR, ASSEMBLYMAN FROM LONDONDERRY AND LEADER ULSTER WORKERS COUNCIL (UWC) TOLD CONSUL GENERAL AUGUST 31 THAT COUNCIL WOULD NOT RPT NOT RUN ITS OWN SLATE OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION. INSTEAD UWC WILL PROVIDE CANDIDATES FOR THE LOYALIST UNITED ULSTER UNIONIST COUNCIL (OR COALITION, UUUC). THIS CONFIRMS EARLIER STATEMENT BY IAN PAISLEY AND NEGATES PRESS RUMORS TO CONTRARY.

2. BARR MADE IT CLEAR THAT UWC-UUUC ASSOCIATION TENTATIVE ONE AS FAR AS HE CONCERNED AND DEPENDENT UPON SATISFACTORY COALITION PERFORMANCE IN PROCESS SELECTING CANDIDATES. BARR SAW NO RPT NO REAL ALTERNATIVE TO ASSOCIATION WITH COALITION SINCE UWC COULD NOT RPT NOT BECOME A POLITICAL PARTY. BARR EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN OVER WHAT TACTICS LOYALIST PARA-MILITARY GROUPS MIGHT USE IN CONVENTION ELECTION BUT DID NOT ELABORATE. HE LUKEWARM AT MOST ABOUT UNIONIST ADOPTION ENOCH POWELL AS CANDIDATE FOR PARLIAMENT. BARR
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BELIEVES THAT SEVERAL ULSTER RESIDENTS WHO EQUALLY IF NOT BETTER

QUALIFIED THAN POWELL AND BARR DISTRUSTS POWELL ATTITUDES ON
TRADE-UNIONS AND WORKING CLASS.

3. BARR PESSIMISTIC ABOUT POSSIBILITIES SUCCESS CONSTITUTIONAL
CONVENTION. HE SEES ANIMOSITIES TOO DEEP AND IDEOLOGICAL DIFFER-
ENCES TOO WIDE TO PERMIT EMERGENCE OF A SATISFACTORY CONSTITUTION.
THERE ONLY TWO ALTERNATIVES TO ULSTER PROBLEM IN HIS VIEW; EITHER
INDEPENDENT ULSTER WITH DOMINION STATUS OR FEDERATION ULSTER AND
EIRE WITH FEDERAL PARLIAMENT TO SIT AT WESTMINSTER. BARR DESCRIB-
ED THESE ALTERNATIVES AS "NOT VERY REALISTIC" IN THE SHORT TERM.

4. IT CLEAR FROM THIS CONVERSATION AND OTHER INDICATIONS RECENTLY
THAT UWC-UUUC ASSOCIATION TENUOUS AND FRAGILE. THERE SIMPLY TOO
MANY DISPARATE GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS TO ACCOMMODATE. THESE RANGE
FROM HIGHLY CONSERVATIVE ORANGEMEN WHOSE SPOKESMEN IS HARRY WEST
TO SELF-PROFESSED SOCIALISTS SUCH AS BARR WHOM SOME PROTESTANTS,
INCLUDING WEST, CONSIDER TO BE A COMMUNIST.

5. MEMCON FOLLOWS. SPICER. UNQUOTE.
MOORE

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